

**AUSTRALIAN**

# **UFO**

**BULLETIN**



**THE VICTORIAN U.F.O. RESEARCH SOCIETY**

**P.O. BOX 43 MOORABBIN 3189 VICTORIA AUSTRALIA**

V.U.F.O.R.S. COMMITTEE - APRIL 1979.

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## AUSTRALIAN U.F.O. BULLETIN - MAY, 1979

### EDITORIAL

"Here we have a case that can be explained, - positive evidence that there is something going on that we cannot explain and once you get to that point people can start theorising what it might have been. Of course the standard theorising of extraterrestrial visitors or time travellers must be admitted as possibilities. It means do we have to take a new viewpoint on the human race and science as it is understood now - so you could say that this UFO subject is not something to be laughed at; it affects the fundamental beliefs of everybody in the way they live day to day;.... at last for the first time we have positive proof that something unusual is going on; as we probe more deeply, the answers to the questions this case raises turn out to be what people have suspected since 1947 - we have visitors from some place!"

This was the summing up by Dr. Bruce Macabee an optical physicist for NICAP (National Investigation Committee on Aerial Phenomena) after 3 months of analysis by seventeen of NICAP's scientists and by two scientists from the CIA.

In line with our February edition of the UFO Bulletin concerning the well known Cook Strait Flap, as predicted many expert debunkers commenting on the New Zealand incident are suffering from severe indigestion after being forced to eat their words in reference to the most recent announcement by Channel 0 on results of analysis of the footage taken over Cook Strait late last year by Quentin Fogarty and his team.

No doubt there are a lot of very red faced people who are still in a state of shock after hearing the positive confirmation of the UFO's sighted over Cook Strait, announced by Dr. Bruce Macabee along with Dr. J.A. Hyneck in a New York news conference, on an American programme called "Good Morning, America".

This final long awaited result after the analysis of the film, was announced on the Channel 0 evening news on the 18th April, and not beyond any scope of the imagination, is what the world has been waiting to hear, and has at last allowed the theorists behind the supersonic insects and migratory mutton bird theories to rest from their nail biting anxiety, to find that they are the ones to have been completely debunked themselves.

The most attractive statement made by Dr. Macabee for NICAP which has been in operation for 20 years and has analysed some 2000 UFO cases was.. "This is the opposite kind of UFO film; it has tremendous basis in fact and in the 20 years of NICAP's existence, the only film that NICAP can say is verified film of a UFO".

Startling news to some but one most expected by Ufologists and organizations alike around the world. The New Zealand Air Force may be glad to learn that this Society does partially agree with their debunking theory.... That is to say that there is definitely something very fishy going on in the high altitudes of the night skies over Cook Strait, but one thing is for sure - it certainly is not caused by "lights on Japanese squid boats".

In any case the operations of VUFORS, with special thanks to our Vice President - Mr. Paul Norman who has spent a lot of time and effort in reporting the facts as presented; shall continue to do so with the best possible details available. Beyond a doubt, for as many sighting reports that are going to be made in the future, debunking theories will be reborn for as long as the UFO phenomena exists. However, one consolation that you can readily assume, is that officialdom's debunking guide books for trained personnel must be stacked as high as the Eiffel Tower.

- John Thompson.



## EARTHQUAKE LIGHTS

Credit:- Dept. of the Interior - U.S. Geological Survey  
News Release - July 3rd, 1977.

According to an American scientist, earthquake lights, which are luminous phenomena observed to occur during some earthquakes, are worthy of additional scientific investigation. Unfortunately very little work has been done on these lights as most of the reports have been made by untrained observers.

The first investigations of earthquake lights were carried out in the early 1930's by two Japanese seismologists, one of whom collected 1500 reports from the Idu Peninsula earthquake which occurred at 4.30 a.m. on 26th Nov. 1930. In the case of the Idu Peninsula quake, almost all the observers agreed that the sky was lit up as if by sheet lightning but that each flash was of a much longer duration than that of lightning. Some described the lights as resembling auroral streamers, beams and columns, fireballs, or as a ruddy glow in the sky, estimated to be 50 miles to the east of the quake's epicenter, nearly 70 miles to the northeast and more than 40 miles to the west and were seen both before and after the quake for some time but were most conspicuous during the peak of the shock.

Earthquake lights have also been observed at sea. In January 1922, when an earthquake occurred off the coast of northern California, an observer noted a glow at sea which was at first thought to be a ship on fire. In October 1926, a flash of light at sea, resembling a "transformer exploding" was seen at the same time as a quake centered in Monterey Bay.

The late Prof. James E. McDonald, formerly an atmospheric physicist at the University of Arizona, Tucson, put forth one theory that in the case of the Hebgen Lake earthquake in Montana in 1956, space charge might be transported through a vertical distance of 300 metres (about 900 feet) by aerodynamic drag from a landslide triggered by the quake. He said that this could possibly set up temporary electrical imbalances that would lead to luminosity but this could not account for most of the sightings which do not include landslides.

A second theory by another physicist is linked to the "piezoelectric" effect in quartz-bearing rock. (The piezoelectric effect refers to the setting up of an electrical potential in certain rocks - particularly quartz - as the result of stress changes).

Evidence exists that stress accumulated in rocks over a period of years would be released gradually beginning several days before a large earthquake. This straining could lead to generation of a high seismoelectric potential, generated by stress on piezoelectric quartz in the rocks and the resultant discharges might be seen several hours before the actual fault-break of the major earthquake. If this theory is correct, it may be possible to develop electrical monitoring methods for earthquake prediction.



UFO's AND EARTHQUAKES....Comments by J.M. Magee

You may wonder what earthquakes have to do with UFO's! In the 1960's an earthquake was felt down through the centre of Australia, south of Darwin towards Adelaide, just missing that city then turning west. It "flattened" a town in W.A. and officials stated at the time that had there been a large city on that line, it would have caused more damage than the San Francisco quake in 1910. About one month prior to that shake, a number of UFO sightings had occurred throughout the area. About one month prior to a big quake in Japan and also on another occasion one month before a large shake in South America there had been a spate of sightings in those areas.

Someone once commented to me that perhaps the UFO's cause the quakes. I prefer to think, and I would expect it to be more likely, that the Ufonauts have the means to ascertain where and probably what degree of strength the forthcoming earthquake will record. If, as is indicated by the preceding article, our earth scientists have even considered the possibility of monitoring earthquakes, then surely the race capable of producing the machines we have tagged UFO's is quite capable of other technological achievements far in advance of ours.

Some years back, in fact as far back as December 1965, Aust. F.S. Review printed a brief article on "Earthquakes and UFO's" by Roy Russell who was President of the Qld F.S. Bureau.

Because we believe this subject is both interesting and controversial we are reprinting it in this edition. If any reader wishes to do some further research on this subject, we would be pleased to print any appropriate and suitable material.

Apparently after trying to make us think and putting some earthmen to considerable trouble in a concerted effort to prove or disprove the New Zealand film on the odd UFO happenings in that part of the world, they turned their attentions to the Adriatic area causing excitement among the residents there. Was it just coincidence that they were there a short time before the very serious earthquakes in the Adriatic or were they really monitoring them? (Ed....you might note also that though the "Herald", which is notably anti-saucer, printed the reports, they had to "have a go" at the 'little green men'. They probably wouldn't have printed the items if no green men had been mentioned!).

EARTHQUAKES AND U.F.O.'s ..... by Roy Russell

Ten years after Kenneth Arnold had his sighting in 1947 (when the words 'flying saucer' were coined), things began to happen on our planet : (1) in 1957-58 the International Geophysical Year (I.G.Y.) went into action and (2) the major powers launched their space programs. Today, 1965, these projects are still hard at it; and so are the UFO's.

These three activities - I.G.Y., space research and UFO's - seem to share the same interests : (1) the geophysical condition of the planets and (2) their habitability.

Researchers generally agree that the UFO's do display a scientific interest in our planet : rocket proving grounds, space research centres and aerodromes are familiar hunting grounds for UFO's. Others suggest that they also show a keen interest in the faultline or earthquake zones on earth.

In 1961, Robert J. Gribble, an American Researcher, listed 21 instances for the year 1960 where UFO's were sighted over active earthquake zones in various parts of the world. In seven instances the 'quake preceeded the sighting and in fourteen cases the UFO turned up just prior to the quake (often on the same day, and never more than nine days before or after the quake. Unfortunately, no other correlations are known to me at this time.

Now why should the UFO's suddenly turn up to observe our age-old, mundane earthquakes? - this is tantamount to the entire staff of the C.S.I.R.O. rushing over to New Zealand to see a geyser gush; there's nothing new in that.

But Hapgood, in his book "Earth's Shifting Crust" (1958) says today's earthquakes are far from mundane. They are increasing in frequency and intensity because, argues Hapgood, our planet is now feeling the centrifugal effect of the Antarctic ice-cap which is causing another shift in the earth's crust - another tilt as the expression has it.

It is not given to many scientists to study a major shift in action; it could be why the UFO's are loathe to go back home.

Another factor which could cause more earthquakes and also interest UFO's is that during 1957/58 the sun changed its polarity. If sun spots effect our weather and radio communications, what effect would a complete reversal of the sun's poles, never before observed have on earth. I don't think we can entirely dismiss the idea that the sun's reversal isn't upsetting our weather, air and sea currents and regular pattern of earthquakes.

And major quakes are certainly on the increase! (A major is one that registers a minimum of force 6 on the Richter Scale). Note the following world figures : 1945 - 15 majors were recorded. 1950 - 30 majors ; 1955 - approx. 30 majors; (1957/58) the sun changed polarity). 1959 - 132 majors shook the earth; 1963 - 61 majors; 1964 - 93 majors. And for this year, 1965, 62 majors have occurred in the first six months (figures taken from the U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey). These figures are extremely high when we learn that in the good old days, before the current flap of UFO's, our planet averaged only 10 major earthquakes each year! (One cannot say that improved I.G.Y. equipment is responsible for the high figures now obtained. A major, because of its intensity, could always be detected even on the older equipment at our disposal.



SOME OVERSEAS REPORTS

SAUCERS SEARCH IN THE ADRIATIC

- 'SUNDAY MAIL' ..17th December 1978

ROME - A 14 metre yacht, bristling with sophisticated electronic gadgets, intends to set sail this week to solve the mystery of "The Adriatic Triangle" - the notorious stretch of Italian sea where reports of scores of flying saucers and supernatural phenomena are terrorising people.

Over the last two months the "triangle" (between Ascoli Piceno and Pescara) has become the scourge of fishermen, airline pilots and sailors - all frightened by pastel-green flying objects and luminous orange rays traversing their routes.

Seamen have reported sudden tidal waves on calm days, violent orange mushrooms rising from the sea and navigation instruments that suddenly went berserk.

Pilots talked of flying objects rocketing from the sea at incredible speed to zip across the skies.

Two military airport officials at Brindisi, on the south-eastern tip of Italy, reported seeing an object emitting orange and green lights.

Navy Captain Piero Gallerano set out to sea in Coastguard vessel CP 2018 on November 9 after reports by various trawlers of an unidentified flying object sighting 6 km offshore.

At 8.45 that night Gallerano and his crew of five said they saw "a luminous red object rise from the sea at an angle of 45 degrees. The sea was calm and visibility excellent, but for the next hours the radar and radio suffered major interference.

Reports of UFO's are no novelty in a country where fantasy and fact have often merged inextricably by religious fervour and hypnotic fascination for the bizarre.

In March, six commercial airline pilots in the space of 10 minutes reported a green UFO between Milan and Florence.

Italy's Government seems to take the apparitions more seriously than it admits in public. The weekly magazine Panorama reported last week that for 15 years the Italian Defence Ministry has kept a close eye and a heavy dossier on UFO's.

The Ministry has just issued a new questionnaire to its military staff about future UFO spotters to shed light on such burning issues as "the mode of propulsion, the composition, the speed and the manoeuvrability" of the object.

GREEN MEN AND UFO'S...IT'S AN EPIDEMIC!

= "HERALD" 3 Jan. 1979

Rome - Three policemen in Puglia say they saw three cigar-shaped discs spitting fire.

A hairdresser says he met a little green man with horns. A Rome businessman told a nation-wide television audience of his encounter with two grey-coloured "mini-men" descending from the sky in a beam of light. Fishermen in the Adriatic reported sudden tidal waves on calm days and balls of red light emerging from the sea.

Italians are gripped by what the Milan daily Corriere Della Sera called "flying saucer fever" - in epidemic proportions.

Unidentified flying objects have created such a craze that even a prisoner in Bari escaped from his cell and climbed onto the jail roof in the hope of spotting one.

Scientists, "ufologists", sociologists and other experts are given daily space in the news media to analyse the strange phenomenon haunting Italians.

It all began in September when fishermen near the Adriatic port of Pescara sailed home one morning with tales about mysterious tidal waves, mushrooms of red light rising from the sea and scores of flying saucers zig-zagging across the skies.

Shortly afterwards two of their colleagues drowned when their trawler capsized in what experts said was an absolutely calm night.

Earlier, people living along the coastline reported that the sea suddenly receded hundreds of metres, only to spill back, hours later, in a huge tidal wave.

UFO'S 'CIRCLED CHURCH'

- "TIMES" - Canberra A.C.T. 5th Jan. 1979

Milan - An early morning police patrol took photographs of luminous objects they say they saw yesterday morning circling Milan Cathedral.

The policemen said the objects emitted a white light, were moving slowly, and looked similar to stars.



UFO MEN KIDNAPPED ME : GUARD

"HERALD" 13th Jan. 1979

ROME - Little green men from outer space have joined Italy's kidnap craze, according to night-watchman Fortunato Zanfretta.

Television viewers in Genoa tonight will see him describe under hypnosis how 10 or more unearthly kidnappers carried him off from his rounds and held him captive in a spaceship for several hours. "They had yellow triangular eyes, green skin and thorns growing out of their cheeks" he tells a doctor in tonight's documentary.

"When they spoke, a green light came out of their mouths".

The doctor, who put him in a trance before cameras to test his story, says he is quite satisfied Mr. Zanfretta is not lying.

"But that is not to say he objectively lived the experience", says the doctor.

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FAMILIES WIPED OUT IN QUAKE

"SUN" 17th April, 1979.

BELGRADE - Entire families were among the 200 people killed in the earthquake which hit Yugoslavia's Adriatic resorts yesterday.

SHOCKS GO ON AS TITO TOURS

"HERALD" 17th April, 1979.

BELGRADE - President Tito toured the earthquake hit Adriatic coast today - as about 200 more minor earth trembles shook the area.

NEW QUAKE ROCKS RESORT TOWNS

"SUN" 18th April 1979.

BELGRADE - A strong tremor rocked Yugoslavia's earthquake devastated Adriatic region today, causing further damage in resort towns and mountain villages.

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UFO SIGHTING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA from the magazine -

'UFO QUEBEC' NO. 15 Translated by Martine Ruffin.

What follows is the well detailed case of an observation of the type Close Encounter of the First Kind made by a Montreal family while on a trip to Victoria, on the island of Vancouver in British Columbia.

Our two principal witnesses 35 years of age are the parents of 2 children and ask to remain anonymous. Normand was a student for 19 years and is presently working at the S.G.M.E. at the Ministry of Education. Marie was a student for 15 years and she is now teaching.

Data Sheet....

Date : Tuesday, 18th July 1978

Time : 11.40 pm Pacific time

Length of Observation : 8 - 10 seconds

Probability : 8

Strangeness : 8

Type : R.R. No. 1

Number of UFO's : 1

Number of Witnesses : 2

Place : Victoria; Springfield St. B.C. Canada.

At the end of July Claude MacDuff received a telephone call from a lady from Montreal who had returned from a voyage to Victoria on the coast of the Pacific, reporting that these travellers had been witnesses to an observation of the type R.R. No. 1, he asked this lady to telephone me in order to give me the information relative to this observation. Following this conversation, I received in the days that followed a detailed report sent to me by husband Normand.

Witness account.... "Less than a month ago my wife and I witnessed the passage of a UFO in the sky over Victoria. This happened on Tuesday, 18th July at about 11.40 pm. Without fear of getting away from the truth I can say this "appearance" lasted 8-10 seconds. We were at the home of some friends in Springfield Street. My wife and I were camping out in a house for an evening. At that moment while the children were sleeping, we were preparing our sleeping bags. In fact, kneeling down, I was unrolling my sleeping bag. I was on the right-hand side of the window. My attention was drawn by what at first seemed to me to be a very big aeroplane all lit up.

In fact it was only the wings which seemed lit up (but what an amount of light). It was a good 2 seconds before I experienced any shock, before I realised that there were only wings (without any body, etc).

I thought I was seeing a plane whose body and wings formed the shape of a cross when it passed over our heads. But there were only wings, completely lit up; no noise, not a sound. And yet it was enormous.

I got up and rushed to the window, beckoning my wife Marie, to come and see a "flying saucer". At that moment I was certain that it wasn't a plane, a helicopter, a hydro plane, air ship etc. Before my wife looked out of the window "the enormous lit-up flying object" left its slightly vertical position (diagonal) and adopted a horizontal one. 3 seconds had elapsed since it first appeared.

For about 7 seconds, we saw the UFO fly slowly in front of us (from left to right, i.e. from south to north) and then disappear behind a thick clump of trees at the extreme right (of the field of vision allowed by the window).

Our cameras being in the car, we had no choice, we had to observe the UFO as best we could and retain as many details of it as possible..... But that's not easy; the night was clear but the moon wasn't out. Yet, the light - which was entirely white and non-dazzling stood out in the sky, thus allowing us to recognize the contours of the UFO and even to guess at a dark mass making up the upper part of the object. As for the UFO overall it was 8 or 9 inches long across the window frame.

I concentrated on 2 points in particular - the shape and the movement of the light.

On the one hand, the space-craft's extremely white light came from a great many small white lights (like portholes, vents or the light bulbs characteristic of electric signs).

On the other hand, you could notice a rapid circular movement of the light - contrasting with the rather slow speed of the object - from left to right. Besides having seen this same circular movement of the light, my wife observed the shape of the upper part of the UFO better. Thus she retained the detail of a type of beacon, somewhat rectangular, covering the upper part of the craft (the dark half of the UFO). This steady white light seemed to come from the interior of the machine.



Just before the disappearance of the UFO, I made a comment to my wife...it was a comparison that described the object in a reasonably precise manner.

8I'd say it was a flying hydroglider (hovercraft)'.  
It was at an altitude of more or less 60 metres. Those

who witnessed it would have easily heard the sound of a plane or of a helicopter etc. at this distance. Marie noticed that there were stars in the sky as she identified the Big Bear. Another detail struck Normand when the object moved away : he noticed a less dense and uniform, luminous strip which was rotating just above the centre of this mass of lights. The glow from these would be comparable to a white neon tube. The observers did not see any sidelights. This luminous mass, plus the dark section, was clear and well-defined. There was no vapour, no haze around this machine and no trail behind.

It is notable that there is, not far from Victoria, a military air-base.

In finishing, (before adding the drawings or sketches of the UFO) I want to make a point of stating precisely that all the important details that are related here were given to our friends from Victoria the following morning, along with a very rapidly executed drawing. But no-one has reported this "appearance".

Lastly, it would be a good idea to add here that our knowledge of UFO's was very limited at that particular time. As far as I am concerned, I numbered myself among the sceptics before this event. But what I saw, I well and truly saw and no one can make me change my mind. UFO's exist."

(Signed Normand)

#### Further Details

Following a long conversation with Normand and Marie, here are some further details....

The sighting was made from a window facing west; a window that was closed and without curtains when Normand saw the UFO. The latter came from behind their point of observation - it was at this moment that the UFO was closest to the two witnesses.

Normand estimates that the diameter of this strange machine could be compared to 4 full moons lined up side by side at a distance of less than 250 metres.

As for the reaction of our two witnesses, it was all the greater since they were sceptics before the sighting. Marie told me that they didn't close their eyes the whole night, asking themselves a great many questions.

Our two witnesses are anxious to know if there were any others who witnessed this strange machine pass over.

Researcher - Philippe Blaquiére

Source - Claude MacDuff

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TATURA SIGHTING .....

John Thompson of VUFORS

The witness of this incident who has not mentioned anything to this day about his experience of over 12 months ago is very vague as far as dates and times are concerned. But the report goes as follows:

In the latter half of October 1977, Mr. W. (name on file) was travelling in a westerly direction on the Grigare east Rd. after having sold some farm land to two brothers who live a mile south of Tatura. He left their premises at approximately 10 pm; the sky was clear and no wind was apparent. He pulled out of the drive and turned left to a westerly direction on a small back road which runs parallel to Tatura and the Midland Highway. Immediately on his left he noticed an extremely bright light coming from behind a slight hill rise approximately 1000 yards away due south west. At the time he thought that the light, (somewhat like a spot-light at that distance) was coming from a wheat harvester. Night harvesting was done quite commonly in that district. He then proceeded slowly down the road in his purple Fairlane (white interior) keeping an eye on it all the time. The light then became increasingly brighter so he pulled his sun-shade around to blot out the glare to his eyes. Meanwhile he moved onward slowly to the next intersection (minor road).

He then noticed that it was keeping pace at 40 mph at a parallel distance of approximately 800 yards away, at 20-25 azimuth. There were no other cars around and he noticed that it was lighting up his car bonnet and interior with extreme brilliance. Now at this stage keeping pace with him (s-s.w. direction) from his car at a change of 30-40 azimuth.

The object appeared at the time to show shades of red, green, and orange circulating around the object but indistinctly beneath the bright white glow that enhanced the object. A mile and a half down the road the object still keeping the same distance, crossed above, in front of the car to a direction 270 but still at the same azimuth. It now appeared brighter as it hovered above a farm shed on his front right hand side and drew closer to it, where it then dropped to its lowest altitude of 25 ft, (below tree height).

The witness then became concerned realising that the object overwhelmingly lit up the shed and surroundings better than any pair of driving lights he had come across in 15 years of driving the same road home. Then as he continued further on (3 miles onward) and at a second intersection, the object appeared back in its first position of s-s.w. in the general direction of Bendigo at the same altitude and azimuth as first mentioned. Appearing now at approximately 500 yards and slightly more towards the front of him he pulled over and switched off his lights to get out and have a look at the object. At this time there was a car coming along in a northerly direction through the intersection which was no more than 60 feet from where he was parked. He waited approximately 1 min. looking around and noticed the object had now disappeared completely since he saw the car on his left proceeding through the crossroad to the north. Once the car had passed he then moved onward at approximately 100 mph., being by this time quite panicky and in a hurry to get home. Seconds later the object appeared in front of him from out of no-where at approx. 200 yards at 400 ft. high. The light was now that powerful "that it lit up the dust on my purple bonnet of the car". It then kept pace with the car again at speeds of 90-100 mph to the front left of him again.

Nearing the turn-off into his farm he rapidly turned northward and noticed that the object still kept pace and lit up his cyprus driveway from at least 500 yards away. Reaching the driveway at this point the object meanwhile then moved southward from the house to now 200 yards away, lighting up a willow tree in the bottom paddock..... He then went inside and frantically called the rest of the family outside consisting of Michelle, Veronica and Dale who then saw the object now at least half a mile away to the south over the next-door-neighbours farm. It was, as witnessed by all 4 people, lighting up that particular spot where it now was with such brilliance that it could be told there was a fresian - black & white herd of cattle and they were clearly showing up! It then disappeared in a southerly direction towards Bendigo and was gone within 30 seconds.

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On a recent trip to Bendigo an active member of the Society, Mr. Pat Gildea, followed up an interesting report as follows in the Bendigo 'Advertiser' on the 27th March, 1979.

UFO SOCIETY TO CHECK SIGHTING...

A field officer from the Victorian UFO Society will visit Bendigo following the recent sighting of a UFO by a Golden Square man and his wife two weeks ago.

Mr. Pat Gildea said the description of the UFO which was reported in the March 14 edition of "The Advertiser" was similar to a sighting at Newstead, 14 km west of Castlemaine in February, 1978.



Mr. Gildea said he would talk to the witness, Mr. Allan Nixon and his wife, Janette, of Chum Street, Golden Square, who followed the UFO in their car from Bridgewater to the outskirts of Bendigo. The couple described the object as a huge bright car light and able to move at incredible speeds.

They followed the object for several kilometres before it stopped about five kilometres on the Bridgewater side of Marong.

Mr. Nixon said the UFO kept on changing from a white light to a dull red.

"Suddenly it zoomed towards us, then did a 360 degree circle around and moved off over towards Bendigo at an incredible rate" Mr. Nixon said.

Mr. Gildea said this sighting was unusually similar to a UFO seen by a Newstead man and his daughter.

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BLACKWOOD, VICTORIA....SIGHTING - John Thompson 6/12/1978.

On the evening of the 21st Oct. '78 Mr. & Mrs. C. Rossitto, Mr. & Mrs. R. Petersen and Mr. & Mrs. G. Williams all of usual employment which they wish to remain confidential were away at a holiday house in Blackwood, Victoria when at approximately 10.30 pm Mrs. Petersen who was in bed as were the others watching T.V. in the lounge room. The front of the room having quite large windows, they observed an extremely bright light in the east (more like a spot-light), with a small red light to the left and a smaller green light to the right if not both appearing to be actually contacting with the white light. Upon advising the other two members they were not particularly worried.

Mrs. Petersen noticed the object for a period of only 5 minutes through the window of the house which allowed sufficient vision; the object making no sound and at an azimuth of 20-25.

At this particular time the television began to malfunction. They were unable to control the picture rolling no matter how much they tried.

At approx. 11.10 pm all three parties observed the object in a position of 92-93. Mrs. Petersen & Mrs. Rossitto became quite fearful of the object now that it had stayed for so long and now changed position. Dianne Williams was not affected. They all then observed the object for a period of 15 minutes.

They all state that during the event the object hovered in one position then at times would appear to go up and down, and side to side with a very rapid speed. They all state that the object was then emitting beams coloured red/green in the form of a dotted line. They were directed to the earth's surface but disappeared seconds after. Calculations made would show each beam to be only 100 ft. long, hence not actually contacting anything on the ground as could be visibly seen but would soon fade.

Still awake they observed that at approx. 1.30 am the next morning, the object had moved again to a position of 45 still hovering, (though the time of observation for each party varied through the early hours of the morning.

The last sighting which was the longest the object had changed shape to the form of a cricket bat, still white in colour, then later into a long straight line, white in colour and quite thin.

Mrs. Rossitto observed this, then turned her head away for a second - and the object was gone.

Next morning, all members were in a cheerful mood. During the observation the kitchen and lounge globes blew, for no apparent reason. The TV was switched off early due to its erratic behaviour. Their horses around the back were more restless than normal.

After the incident, Mrs. Rossitto was quite depressed and suffered watering eyes, ears aching, irritated nose and a severe headache. The other two ladies felt normal, except that Mrs. Williams felt an extreme impulse that she should not leave the house that Sunday afternoon (22/10/78) - she did not want to leave.

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EYEWITNESSES REVEAL ...

Report in the "National Enquirer"

USA. Jan. '79.

"WE SAW UFO DESCRIBED BY MISSING PILOT"

"That strange aircraft is hovering on top of me again. It...is hovering - and it's not an aircraft!"

Only seconds after a terrified Australian pilot blurted out those fear filled words on his radio, shocked air traffic controllers heard a strange metallic crunch - and the radio went dead.

Today, more than two months later, pilot Frederick Valentich and his plane are still missing.

Incredibly, at the very moment Valentich was reporting his encounter with a gleaming UFO, a local bank manager and his wife were watching a UFO in the same area. "The description the pilot gave of the object was identical to my wife's. They both said it was shiny and bright, with a green light", said banker Colin Morgan, 59, of Melbourne, who noted that his wife Isabel had seen the UFO more clearly than he had. "I was amazed. I couldn't believe it when I read about it. We viewed it at the same time the pilot was describing it!"

The Morgans weren't the only ones who spotted UFO's in the area, the 'Enquirer' has learned. A rash of sightings occurred in the days just before and after the 20 year old pilot vanished.

The disappearance of Valentich bewilders the experts probing it. Australian Transport Dept. spokesman Ken Williams pointed out that Valentich was a qualified pilot who had given his speed, altitude and position just before he vanished. The information allowed investigators to calculate where his plane would have come down if he'd crashed - but nothing was there. "It's a mystery", said Williams. "The investigators are baffled because they haven't found any trace of wreckage".

Valentich had flown out of Melbourne's Moorabbin Airport in a Cessna at 6.19 pm on October 21, 1978. His destination was King Island, just off the coast. "It was a clear night", said Williams, "very little wind and no rain or fog. It was almost visibility unlimited". But at 7.06 pm Valentich suddenly radioed the air tower in Melbourne and in a puzzled voice asked: "Is there any traffic below 5,000 (feet)? The tower replied no, and Valentich said that a "bright" craft had just flown over his plane. Seconds later he reported that the craft had returned and flown over him two or three more times.

"It has such speed" Valentich radioed. "What I'm doing right now is orbiting, and the thing is just orbiting on top of me. Also, it's got a green light...and sort of metallic like. It's all shiny on the outside".

Seconds later he said: "It's just vanished".

But only moments passed before Valentich came back on the air and reported: "It's now...now approaching from the southwest". The pilot added that his engine had started "coughing" and "rough idling" - though it apparently had run perfectly until the UFO showed up. Air controllers asked Valentich what he planned to do. He replied: "My intentions are, ah, to go to King Island".

Then in a voice edged with fright, he added: "Ah, Melbourne - that strange aircraft is hovering on top of me again. It...is hovering - and it's not an aircraft!"

Moments later, at 7.12 pm, Valentich keyed his microphone and gave his call sign.

Continued on next page...



Traffic controllers waited for his message - but instead there came a loud, crunching "metallic noise" that lasted 17 seconds. A dead silence followed. Within minutes the stunned controllers had triggered a massive search operation. For four days, 18 planes combed the seas where Valentich's plane had vanished...but nothing was ever found.

"It's the strangest thing I've come across in flying" said a mystified Don Sowman, chief instructor at the flying school Valentich had attended. Sowman revealed that since Valentich had disappeared, many pilots have reported UFO's in the area. A spokesman for the Royal Australian Air Force confirmed that there'd been a burst of UFO activity. "From the 18th to the 22nd of October, 11 sightings were reported to us" he said.

The sighting by banker Morgan and his wife took place at the same time Valentich reported his UFO encounter. Said Mrs. Morgan : "It was bright silver, extremely bright...I noticed a green light flickering. On the left side it seemed to have a type of arm".

About 15 minutes earlier, Dr. Bill Hamilton-Smith and his wife Billie also saw a UFO in the area. "It was a bright, star-shaped object", Billie told the 'Enquirer'.

Investigators haven't discounted the idea that the UFO seen by Valentich was to blame for the disappearance of him and his plane, according to transport department spokesman Ken Williams. "The file will never be closed until something positive is found regarding the fate of that aircraft" he said.

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#### UFO PACES FOKKER FRIENDSHIP .. by Paul Norman of VUFORS.

On the 20th Oct. '78, the day before Frederick Valentich disappeared over Bass Strait, Patricia E.B. (name & address on file) left Melbourne's Tullamarine Airport at 2.45 pm bound for Davenport, Tasmania. She was seated in the back left side window seat of a Fokker Friendship. On looking out of the window she noticed below and on top of the clouds an oval, almost round, object. The UFO was large enough to be observed clearly, with circles of rainbow clouds on the outside with red in the centre.

The object followed the aircraft at a similar speed, maintaining its position under the plane. It was easily picked up above the white clouds.

Patricia watched the object for about 20 minutes wondering what it could be. The hostess interrupted her attention when she brought the tea tray.

When the witness turned her attention back to the window the object had gone.

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TRANSLATORS WANTED

CAN YOU HELP?

We would be very grateful for any help in deciphering letters and articles that we sometimes receive from overseas - Mainly French, German, Italian, Belgian, Spanish & Portugese.

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Australian UFO Bulletin is produced by the Victorian UFO Research Society, P.O. Box 43, Moorabbin, 3189. Victoria, Aust. and is a non-profit organisation dedicated to the objective investigation of the UFO phenomenon. The Society welcomes eye-witness accounts, and any information concerning the observation of unidentified flying objects and unusual aerial phenomena.

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